

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for courtesies extended during the Examiner Interview on August 24, 2005.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 2-4 and 6-10 are currently pending in this application. Claims 2, 4, and 6-10 are independent. Claim 3 depends from claim 2.

Claim Amendments

The independent claims have been amended in this reply to clarify the present invention recited. Specifically, claims 2, 4, and 6-10 have been amended to more clearly recite the manner in which the present invention is performed. In particular, in the present invention, a new print job is initiated by a client computer using a print acceptance screen. The client computer specifies to the printer, via the print acceptance screen, that the printer is to print data from a specific peripheral device. The printer receives the new print job from the client computer, and subsequently directs the peripheral device to acquire the print data so that the printer can obtain the print data from the peripheral device and print the data.

Accordingly, the claims have been amended to require, in part, “wherein the new print job directs a print engine to acquire data to print from a peripheral device” and “wherein the print engine, upon receiving the new print job, directs the peripheral device to acquire the data, and wherein the peripheral device sends the acquired data to the print engine for printing.”

Support for these amendments may be found, for example, on pages 7 and 14 of the Specification. The Applicant asserts that no new matter has been added by these amendments.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 2-4 and 6-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,184,996 ("Gase"). To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

As described above, the claimed invention relates to a method for acquiring and printing data. In the claimed invention, a client computer requests page data from a printer, where the page data includes a print acceptance screen through which the client can submit a new print job. The new print job includes the peripheral device from which to obtain data to print as well as the printer to print the acquired data. The data to be printed is subsequently obtained from one or more peripheral devices, and the printer, upon receiving the print acceptance screen with the particulars of the new print job from the client, requests the peripheral device(s) listed in the new print job to acquire the data to be printed. Thus, in the present invention, the process is acquisition of print data is initiated by the printer and the client computer, not the peripheral device.

Turning to the rejection of the claims, for anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102, the reference must teach every aspect of the claimed invention either explicitly or impliedly. Any feature not directly taught must be inherently present. The Application respectfully asserts that Gase fails to anticipate the claimed invention for at least the following reasons:

(i) Gase fails to disclose or suggest that a printer directs a peripheral device to acquire data to be printed by the printer. Rather, Gase discloses that data to be printed is already stored in a scanner, and thus “pulled” by the printer from the scanner and eventually printed (*See* Gase, col. 4, ll. 61-64). In fact, Gase clearly discloses that the peripheral device (e.g., a scanner) initiates printing of a document by transmitting a URL of a scanned document to a printer (*See* Gase, col. 4, ll. 51-54). Thus, is clear that Gase does not disclose or suggest a printer capable of directing a scanner to acquire print data, where the new print job is initiated by a client computer and the printer. Rather, the scanner in Gase initiates the printing.

(ii) The Examiner attempts to equate the home page of Gase with the print acceptance screen of the claimed invention. As discussed with the Examiner during the Examiner Interview of August 24, 2005, the print acceptance screen of the present invention allows a client computer to submit a new print job, which specifies the source of the content to be printed and the printer to print the content. This is described on page 7 of the Specification, where the printer prints data provided by a scanner. Clearly, because the printer directs the scanner to acquire the image to be printed after the new print job is submitted using the print acceptance screen, the data that is printed by the printer is new content (*i.e.*, content that was not already queued for printing). Gase fails to disclose or suggest that the home page is used to submit new print jobs to a printer. Rather, Gase only discloses that the home page is used to modify already queued print jobs. (*See* Gase, col. 4, ll. 14-16).

In view of the above, it is clear that Gase fails to anticipate independent claim 2 of the present invention. Thus, independent claim 2 is patentable over Gase. Dependent claim 3 is

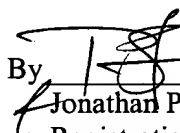
patentable for at least the same reasons. Further, independent claims 4, and 6-10 have been amended to recite similar subject matter as independent claim 2 and are patentable over Gase for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 04783.012001).

Dated: September 12, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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